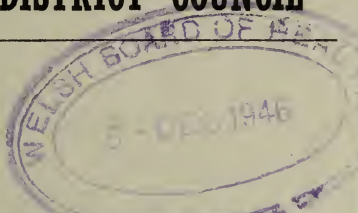


TREGARON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

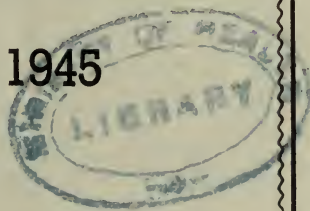


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1945



CAMBRIAN NEWS (ABERYSTWYTH), LTD.—15200

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FOR THE YEAR 1907

1908

TO THE TREGARON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my report for the year 1945.

Statistics and Comments :

Area—121,546 acres.

Population—5,266.

Inhabited Houses—1,900.

Rateable Value—£7,716.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£32.

Births :

Live births—37 males ; 46 females.

Legitimate—34 males ; 42 females.

Illegitimate—3 males ; 4 females.

Still Births—3 females, all legitimate.

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population is 15.7.

Deaths of children under 1 year—1 male, legitimate.

Live Birth Rate for England and Wales is 16.1.

Deaths :

Total deaths number 76 ; 25 males, 51 females.

Death rate is 14.4.

Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.4.

The chief causes of deaths were as follows :—

Heart disease	33
Cancer	5
Pneumonia	3
Cerebral haemorrhage	10
Influenza	—
Suicide	1
Measles	—
Whooping Cough	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	—
Diphtheria	—
Diabetes	—
Scarlet Fever	—
Deaths from Puerperal causes	—
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid	—
Bronchitis	2

Notifiable Cases during 1945 :

An epidemic of Measles occurred during the year, but there were no deaths.

The cases notified included :—

Measles	45 cases.
Scarlet Fever	1 case.
Whooping Cough	2 cases.
Pneumonia	4 cases.

There were no cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified.

Tuberculosis :

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.		Respira- tory.		Non- Respira- tory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
10								
15				1				1
20								
25								
35		1						
45								1
55								
65 and upwards								
TOTALS	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2

All suspected cases of Tuberculosis are referred to the Local Tuberculosis Physician for investigation, and all cases diagnosed as such are notified.

During 1945 only two new cases of Tuberculosis were notified, and there were only two deaths (both being non-pulmonary).

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the register on the 31st December, 1945, were :—

Males—31 Pulmonary and 6 non-Pulmonary ; Total—37.

Females—15 Pulmonary ; Total—15.

Total of Male and Female cases was 52.

In all cases after death occurring from Tuberculosis, efficient disinfection is carried out by the Council's Sanitary Inspector, and any articles which cannot be disinfected are destroyed, the cost of replacement in necessitous cases being borne by the Council.

GENERAL PROVISION FOR HEALTH SERVICES.

1. The Council employs one part-time Medical Officer and a full-time Sanitary Inspector. The Tuberculosis work is carried out by the King Edward Memorial Association.

2. District Nurses are available for all Maternity cases, and the services of these nurses are also available for any general nursing work. There is no Isolation Hospital in the district and all infectious cases have to be treated in their homes.

3. Poor Law Medical Out-Relief. This work is entrusted to members of the District Council, members of the County Council, and certain co-opted members.

4. **Laboratory Facilities.**—All examinations are conducted at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Aberystwyth, and this service has proved of inestimable benefit to the district.

5. All surgical cases are treated at the Aberystwyth Hospital, and any cases requiring special treatment, such as treatment by Radium and Radio Therapy, are transferred to Cardiff where beds are always made available with the minimum of delay. Mental deficiency cases are sent to the Three Counties Mental Hospital at Carmarthen.

6. Maternity work is usually conducted in the patient's home, but cases requiring surgical interference, or cases whose home conditions are unsuitable, may be transferred to the County Maternity Home at Aberystwyth.

7. **Ambulance Facilities.** The district now possesses an ambulance which can be procured when necessary.

8. **Clinical and Treatment Centres.**—The County Medical Officer and the Dental Officer visit all schools periodically, but there is urgent need for a Clinic at Tregaron for Ante-natal and child welfare work. Many of the complications occurring during labour might be avoided, and the well-being and feeding of babies and young children would be very much improved were a suitable clinic provided where medical and nursing advice could be given.

9. **Water Supply.**—Tregaron has a piped water supply which is proving quite satisfactory both in quantity and purity.

Llangeitho : Has a piped supply which is satisfactory.

Pontrhydfendigaid : This village now has a good supply of water.

Llanddewi Brefi : This village is in urgent need of an adequate supply of water.

Many of the smaller villages in the Council's area are in need of improved water supplies.

10. **Rivers and Streams.**—The pollution of the rivers at Tregaron and Llanddewi Brefi still continues. At Tregaron the bed of the river should be made deeper in order to carry the extra water during floods, as the river now during heavy rain is unable to carry all the flow with the result that houses at a low level, such as Doldre, are often flooded to a depth of several inches. This entails much hardship and loss, and is also a very serious menace to the health of the inhabitants.

11. **Factories and Workshops.**—Apart from the Milk Factory at Pont Llanio, there are no other large factories or workshops in the area.

12. There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

13. **Infestation.**—No cases have occurred in the district. Disinfection when required is conducted by the Sanitary Inspector.

14. **Housing.**—The housing problem is becoming acute in the district, and a large number of new houses which could be let at a moderate rental is a matter of extreme urgency. Many families with young children are at present living in houses that are damp, badly ventilated and insufficiently lighted, with the consequent impairment to health and the tendency to produce Rheumatism in the inhabitants. I know that the Council realises the gravity of this question, and trust that the building of new houses will receive priority over many other matters.

SANITARY REPORT.

Housing :

Number of houses erected during the year with State assistance under the Housing Acts :—

(1) By the Local Authority	4
(2) By other bodies or persons	—

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses :

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health Act)	14
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District Regulations)	—
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5
(d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under previous sub-headings) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	14

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal notices :

(a) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	6
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3. Action under Statutory Powers :

(a) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act	—
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts	—
(c) Proceedings under Section 2, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925, Closing and Demolition Orders	—

During the war period there were difficulties in carrying out House Inspections, repairs could not be executed owing to shortage of materials and labour ; overcrowding could not be abated due to the shortage of dwelling-houses.

Tabular Summary of the Work of the Sanitary Department during the year 1945.

Number of inspections for water leakages	60
„ „ Infectious Diseases	5
„ „ Disinfections	5

Number of New Drains tested	190 yds.
„ „ Interviews with owners for repairs	8
„ „ Nuisances investigated	12
„ „ Nuisances abated informally	12
„ „ Inspections to workshops	26
„ „ Inspections to Bakehouses	26
„ „ Earth Closets and Middens converted to W.C.s	6
„ „ Inspections of School Lavatories	60

The refuse at Tregaron is collected once weekly and taken to a dump outside the town, and disposed of by the controlled method of refuse disposal, and supervised by the Sanitary Inspector.

The water supplies have been very good during the year. Some villages have a very poor supply, and it is hoped that the proposed County Water Scheme will improve conditions.

Milk Supply :

Milk (Special Designations) Order :

Samples and Inspections for T.T.	39
Samples and Inspections for Accredited	10
Number of Cowsheds inspected for registration	10
Number of Farms, cowsheds and buildings inspected and advice given as to alteration and cleanliness	38
Number of samples taken under the Milk Advisory Scheme from Retail Producers	96

Meat and Food—condemned during 1945 :

Food, Tinned-stuffs, etc.	45 lbs.	} 342 lbs.
Fruit	86 lbs.	
Bacon	150 lbs.	
Offal	61 lbs.	

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Council and the Sanitary Inspector for their advice and co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

D. A. J. WILLIAMS.